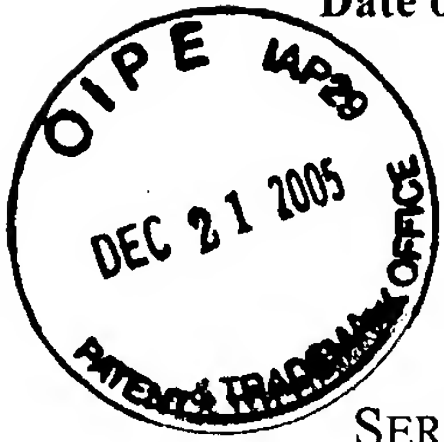


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Attorney Docket No. 23239-538 (ARC-538)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : Wilson, et al.
SERIAL NUMBER : 10/664,610 EXAMINER : Not Yet Assigned
FILING DATE : September 16, 2003 ART UNIT : 1645
FOR : PROPHYLACTIC AND THERAPEUTIC HIV APTAMERS

MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Boston, Massachusetts
December 21, 2005

TRANSMITTAL LETTER


Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-referenced patent application are the following documents:

1. Preliminary Amendment (8 pages); and
2. Return postcard.

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at 617-542-6000, Boston, Massachusetts. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or to credit any overpayment, to the undersigned's account, Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Ref. No. 23239-538 (ARC-538).

Respectfully submitted,

for: 
Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529
Attorney for Applicants
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12-23-05

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.